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ADV LA/1900Z STAFF

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CITE MEXICO CITY 44345

TO: PRIORITY DIRECTOR.

WNINTEL RYBAT MHSPLASH

REFS: A. DIRECTOR 190792
B. MEXICO CITY 44308 0429877
C. DIRECTOR 184902

1. REF A CABLE ANSWERS SOME OF THE QUESTIONS OF PRIMARY CONCERN TO THIS STATION, BUT AT SAME TIME, IT CONFIRMS THE WORST FEARS EXPRESSED IN REF B CONCERNING REVELATIONS ABOUT OPERATIONS AGAINST THE SOVIET TARGET IN MEXICO CITY.

2. IN ORDER OF IMPORTANCE, THE NBC PROGRAM CANNOT HELP BUT BE DAMAGING TO U.S. SECURITY INTERESTS AND THIS AGENCY IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER:

A. REVELATION OF SOURCES. THE STATEMENT BY BACH IN REF C THAT HE "HAD NOT IDENTIFIED ANY SOURCES BY NAME OR DESCRIPTION THROUGHOUT THE TAPING..." IS REFUTED BY THE STATEMENT THAT A SOVIET WAS RECRUITED BY FORMER COS (ROGER T. KINGMAN) DURING HIS TOUR. APART FROM THE DESCRIPTION OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH THE RECRUITMENT WAS MADE, THE SIMPLE STATEMENT THAT A SOVIET OFFICIAL WAS RECRUITED IS SUFFICIENT TO SET OFF A FULL SCALE INVESTIGATION BY THE KGB INTO EVERY SOVIET OFFICIAL WHO SERVED IN MEXICO CITY DURING THAT TIME FRAME. THE SOVIETS HAVE THE RESOURCES AND DETERMINATION TO EVENTUALLY IDENTIFY THE SPY.

B. FUTURE RECRUITMENTS. HOW WILL IT BE POSSIBLE FOR THIS AGENCY TO RECRUIT SOVIETS, OR ANYONE FOR THAT MATTER, IF THE AGENCY CANNOT OFFER GUARANTEES THAT THE IDENTITY OF SOURCES WILL NOT BE EXPOSED BY SOME EMPLOYEE, REGARDLESS OF MOTIVATION? WHILE THIS PROGRAM WILL HAVE IMMEDIATE IMPACT IN MEXICO CITY, LA PAZ, AND MONTEVIDEO, THE FALLOUT AFFECTING FUTURE RECRUITMENTS WILL BE WORLD WIDE.

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C. REVELATION OF METHODS. THE OPERATIONAL TRADECRAFT AND METHODS (TELTAPS) REVEALED BY BACH ARE STILL IN PRACTICE AT THIS STATION. WHILE IT MAY BE ARGUED THAT THE METHODS HAVE BEEN EXPOSED BY OTHERS SUCH AS AGEE, THE BACH REVELATIONS WILL HAVE FAR GREATER IMPACT BECAUSE THEY CARRY THE IMPRIMATUR OF A REPUTABLE U.S. NEWS AGENCY AND ORIGINATE WITH A PERSON WHO IS NOT IN LEAGUE WITH ANY HOSTILE COUNTRY (AS FAR AS WE KNOW).

D. DAMAGE TO LIAISON. A CONSIDERABLE SEGMENT OF THIS STATION'S OPERATIONS ARE BASED ON LIAISON CO-OPERATION. THE RELATIONSHIP THIS STATION ENJOYS WITH HIGH LEVELS OF THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT ALSO PROVIDES A HUNTING LICENSE FOR UNILATERAL ENDEAVORS. THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT IS EXTREMELY SENSITIVE TO THE POSSIBILITY OF EXPOSURE OF INSTANCES OF CO-OPERATION. THE POLITICAL RISK WHICH THE GOVERNMENT IS WILLING TO UNDERGO FOR THIS AGENCY IS NOT UNLIMITED. EXISTING OR POTENTIAL OPERATIONS COULD BE CURTAILED.

E. DAMAGE TO EXISTING SOURCES. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN HOW MANY CURRENT SOURCES WILL CONTINUE COLLABORATING WITH THE AGENCY IN MEXICO CITY (OR OTHER STATIONS) AFTER THIS PROGRAM IS RELEASED.

F. EMBARRASSMENT TO PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO. AS NOTED IN REF B, THE MEXICAN PRESIDENT WILL TRAVEL TO MOSCOW ON A STATE VISIT IN ABOUT SIX WEEKS TIME. AS A MEANS TO DAMAGE CIA, IT WOULD NOT BE UNLIKE THE SOVIETS TO POINT OUT THAT UNBRIDLED CIA OPERATIONS AGAINST A LEGITIMATE SOVIET PRESENCE IN MEXICO ARE A MATTER OF CONCERN TO THE SOVIET UNION AND A POTENTIAL IMPEDIMENT TO CONTINUING FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. THE PRESIDENT MAY CHOOSE TO FINESSE SUCH A STATEMENT, BUT THE POINT WILL HAVE BEEN MADE.

G. STATION SECURITY. DURING PAST MONTHS, HARDLY A DAY HAS PASSED WHEN THE LOCAL PRESS HAS NOT CARRIED SOME ATTACK AGAINST ALLEGED CIA ACTIVITIES IN MEXICO. WITHIN RECENT WEEKS, THE AGENCY HAS BEEN ACCUSED OF EVERY CRIME FROM THE MURDER OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY TO THE ABDUCTION OF ALDO MORO. THE NBC PROGRAM WILL PROVIDE NEW GRIST FOR THE LOCAL PROPAGANDA MACHINE AND FURTHER HIGHLIGHT CIA PRESENCE IN MEXICO WITH CONCOMITANT EROSION OF STATION SECURITY.

H. FUTURE BACH REVELATIONS. THERE PROBABLY IS NO WAY TO ESTIMATE THE AMOUNT OF INFORMATION THAT BACH HAS REVEALED TO UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS. BACH ADMITS THAT HE HAS UNBURDENED HIS SOUL TO HIS FRIENDS, AND UNDOUBTEDLY HAS PROVIDED MATERIAL TO NBC

WHICH WAS NOT USED ON THE PROGRAM. FURTHER, AFTER THE PROGRAM IS BROADCAST, BACH WILL BECOME AN INSTANT CELEBRITY AND A SUBJECT OF INTEREST TO OTHER NEWSMEN OF VARIOUS STRIPES. WHEN WILL HIS REVELATIONS END?

3. STATION WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING MORE PRECISE IDENTIFICATION OF SITES MENTIONED PARA 5 REF A, PARTICULARLY THOSE OF RESIDENCES AND LANDMARKS. WERE THESE THE RESIDENCES OF FORMER OR CURRENT STATION PERSONNEL? WOULD ANY OF THE LANDMARKS BE OF CONCERN TO THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT? RECOGNIZE THAT IN ABSENCE OF SOUND TRACK, THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR ANYONE EXCEPT A PERSON FAMILIAR WITH MEXICO CITY AND STATION OPS ACTIVITIES TO IDENTIFY THESE LOCATIONS AND JUDGE THEIR SIGNIFICANCE. NEVERTHELESS, SUCH INFO ESSENTIAL IF STATION TO COMPLETE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT PRIOR BROADCAST OF THIS PROGRAM. PLS ADVISE SOONEST.

4. FILE: 200-120-150. E2, IMPDET.

END OF MESSAGE